

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS - PER 37 CFR 1.121

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for removing particulate matter and pollutants from a gas stream comprising, a duct having a gas inlet first end connected to receive a gas stream containing pollutant particles, said duct defining a straight passageway between said [at a] first end and a second end that connects to vent particulates into a particulate removal means, said duct having a length and [has] a sorbent material injector means fitted into a duct side at a sorbent introduction site, with said sorbent material injector means having a nozzle end located within the duct that is to pass particles of a sorbent material into, and counter-current to, a flue gas flow, passing through said duct that contains pollutant particles, providing mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles; a moisture sensor means installed in said duct downstream from said injector means nozzle end to read moisture content of the gas stream containing said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles; moisture injector means fitted into said duct downstream from said moisture sensor means and spaced from twenty to thirty feet from said sorbent material injector means nozzle end for injecting water, as a mist, into said gas stream containing said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles, which said moisture injector means is connected to a source of water and is operated in response to a sensing, by said moisture sensor means, of a requirement to moisturize said gas stream containing said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles to provide a moisture content thereto that is a percentage of from eighteen to twenty percent of saturation, and which said moisture is injected into said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles prior to its passage into a removal means; removal means for removing said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles.

2.(Original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein the moisture injector means that is located in the duct, twenty to thirty feet downstream from the sorbent material delivery means, is connected to operate on command from the moisture sensor means, to pass a moisture flow into said duct, to provide moisture to said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles, downstream from said sorbent injector means, to raise the moisture content so as to promote reaction of said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles that pass into the removal means.

3.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 2, wherein the moisture injector means includes a nozzle that provides water, as a fine water mist, into said mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles.

4.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 3, wherein moisture is passed through a nozzle end of the moisture injector means as a fine water mist into the mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles to provide a moisture content of from eighteen to twenty percent of a saturation humidity.

5.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 4, wherein the moisture injector means includes a nozzle end arranged to inject a mist of water droplets that have diameters of from ten to fifteen microns.

6.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein said removal means is a bag house system connected by a vent to the second end of the duct passageway, and said bag house includes a plurality of bags having open ends therethrough the mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles are directed, and each bag is formed from a bag material having pores that each

function as a site for receiving the mixed and compacted sorbent material and pollutant particles.

7.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein sorbent material is selected for its reaction capability with particulate matter of the flue gas stream and is ground to a fine consistency of from one hundred fifty to three hundred fifty mesh.

8.(Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein said sorbent material is a hydrated lime, quick lime or limestone.[.]

9.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, further including an initial sensor means for measuring gas flow pressure and temperature that is located in the duct upstream from the sorbent material injector means to measure the entering flue gas stream temperature, pressure and moisture content as are present in said flue gas stream prior to introduction of sorbent material therein.

10.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 9, wherein the initial sensor means is connected to control operation of the sorbent material injector means to increase or decrease sorbent material volume of flow and pressure, and to control operation of a valve that is opened on command of said initial sensor means to pass a moisture flow into said sorbent material passing into said sorbent material injector means.

11.(Currently Amended) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, further including at least one static fin or plate, secured along a coupling edge thereof to a duct inner wall, extending from said duct inner wall toward said duct longitudinal center axis, and slanting with the direction of flue gas [steam] stream flow at an angle from said duct inner wall that is less than ninety degrees.

12.(Original) An apparatus as recited in Claim 1, wherein the sorbent material injector means includes a straight tube that is fitted through and secured at its outer surface to the duct so as

to form an angle of from thirty to sixty degrees to the duct interior wall, sloping into the gas stream flow.

13. (Cancelled)

14.(Cancelled)

15.(Cancelled)

16.(Cancelled)

17.Cancelled)

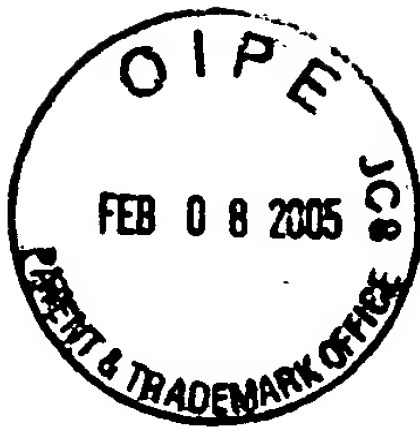
18.(Cancelled)

19.(Cancelled)

20.(Cancelled)

21.(Cancelled)

22.(Cancelled) A method as recited in Claim 13, further including interposing one or more fins or plates into the combined sorbent material and flue gas stream to promote additional turbulence and particle compaction.



Examiner: Basia Ridley
Serial No: 09/893,124 Art Unit: 1764

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non- Fee Amendments, Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 3, 2005.

M. Reid Russell

February 3, 2005

Date

List of items sent:

Amendment and Response

Substitute Drawings (3 Sheets)

Copy of Amendments to Specification

Copy of the Amended Claims

Affidavit (4 pages)

Petition for Extension of Time Under CFR 1.136.(a)

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